

According to Mr. Takeshima, the black pearl shell is collected at the same time as the Takase shell, and May is the regular season. It costs 10 sen for each one. Most of the shells are 6-7 inches wide. There are three suspended trays of mother pearls. Each one contains about 2, 072 mother pearls. The ratio of formation of pearls is about 80%, and the regular one is 2.3 bun [JW: .2737 inches] in diameter. According to Mr. Takeshima, it is not profitable economically, but it seems that it is able to maintain a balanced budget. Originally Mr. Kataoka and Mr. Watanabe obtained the permit for this pearl nursery, but finally it came to Mr. Okimoto through a capitalist in Osaka, Japan. There are many young shells near the nursery, but their shells are so thin that they cannot be used for the mother pearls.

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Woleai

The Okimoto Pearl Nursery is located between Korrer and the isolated islands. The factory and residences of the supervisors are on Korrer Island. The mother pearl nursery is at the Sedo (sand ground with shallow water) between the two islands. The Sedo is about 100 ken wide [JW: approx. 600 ft.], the water is clear, and water circulation is very good.